



University of  
New Hampshire

# THE WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL



May 9, 2016

## GRANITE STATERS DIVIDED ON NORTHERN PASS

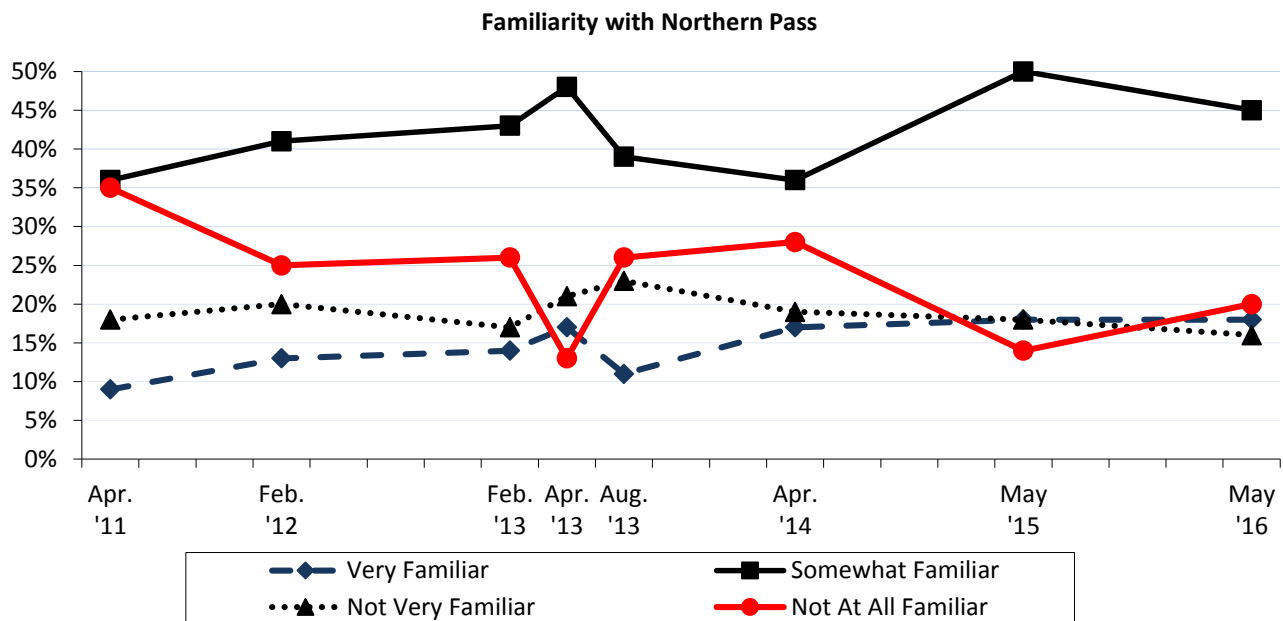
By: Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D.  
Zachary S. Azem, M.A.  
UNH Survey Center  
603/862-2226  
[www.unh.edu/survey-center](http://www.unh.edu/survey-center)

DURHAM, NH – New Hampshire support of Northern Pass has decreased somewhat since last year and residents remain divided over the project. Support for the now-suspended Kinder Morgan pipeline project has also decreased somewhat among Granite Staters. Most New Hampshire residents do not consider themselves very familiar with either project.

These findings are based on the latest **WMUR Granite State Poll**,\* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred and two (502) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between April 18 and May 3, 2016. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4 percent.

### Familiarity With Northern Pass

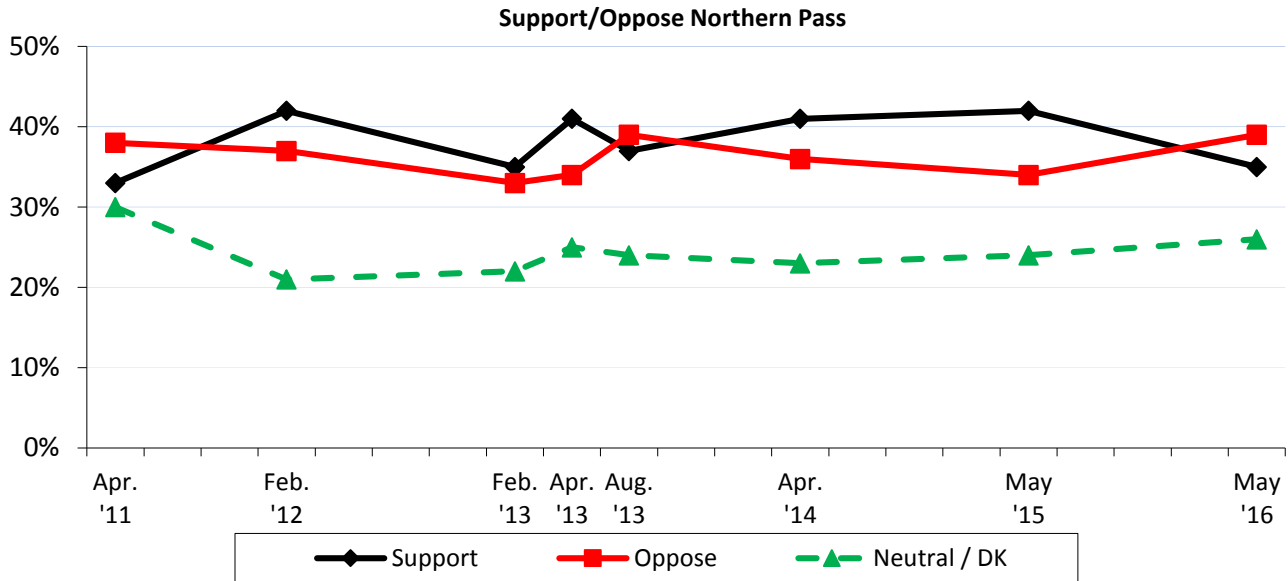
A controversial issue facing the state is the proposed “Northern Pass” project which would bring hydro-electric power from dams in Canada through New Hampshire on high tension wires. Despite considerable controversy and news coverage, awareness of the project continues to remain low. Only 18% of New Hampshire adults say they are very familiar with Northern Pass, 45% are somewhat familiar, 16% are not very familiar, and 20% are not familiar at all. This measure has stayed relatively steady since last year.



\* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, sponsored by WMUR-TV, and conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

### Support/Oppose Northern Pass

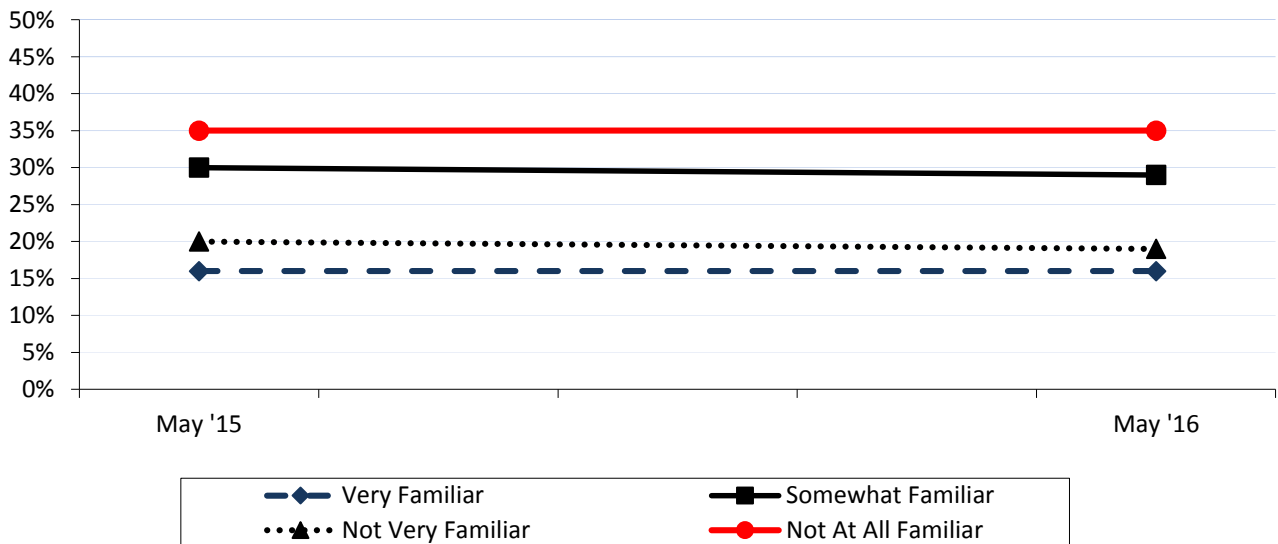
When asked if they support or oppose Northern Pass, attitudes remain mixed. Currently, 35% of New Hampshire adults who have at least some familiarity with Northern Pass support the project (15% strongly and 20% somewhat), 39% oppose the project (23% strongly and 16% somewhat), 19% are neutral, and 7% don't know enough to say. Support for the project has dropped seven percentage points since last year and opposition has increased by five points. There is a significant partisan split as Republicans are more likely to support Northern Pass (53% support, 26% oppose), Democrats are more likely to oppose (22% support, 50% oppose) and Independents are evenly divided (35% support, 36% oppose). Residents of the North Country (47%) and the Connecticut Valley (56%) regions are more likely to oppose the Northern Pass project, while residents in the Manchester area (42%) are more likely to support it.



### Proposed Kinder Morgan Pipeline

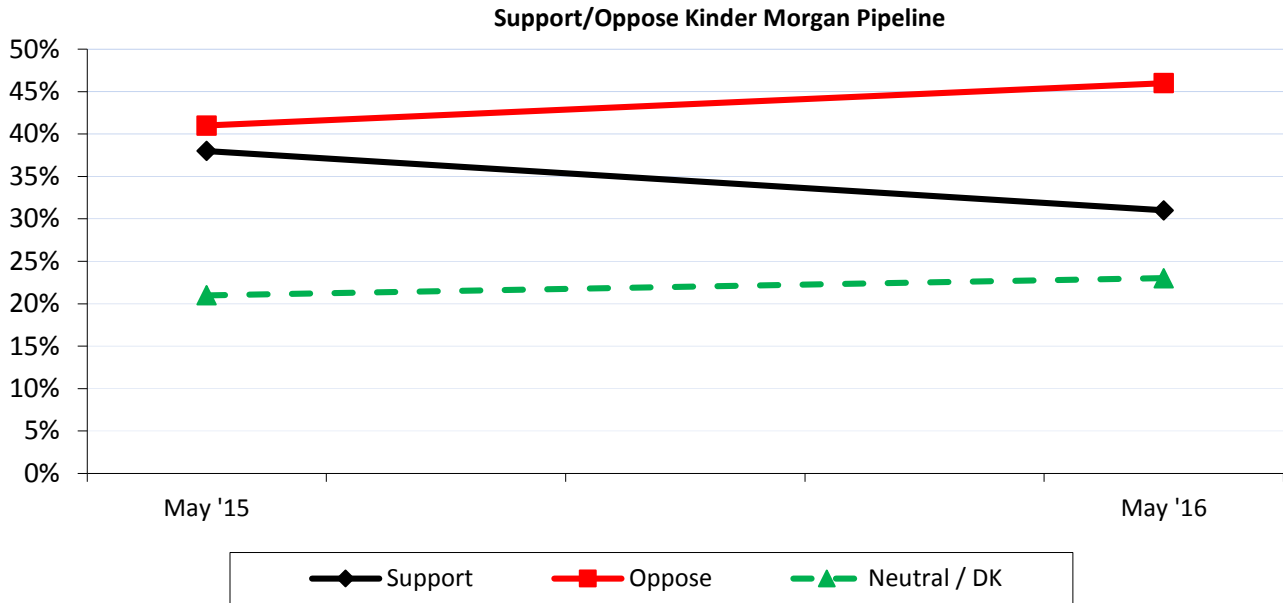
Another controversial energy project facing the state was the proposed Kinder Morgan pipeline which would have brought natural gas into the state, largely from Pennsylvania. While this poll was in the field, Kinder Morgan announced that they were suspending the project. Despite the controversy over the project, most New Hampshire residents were not very aware of it. Only 16% of New Hampshire adults say they are very familiar with the Kinder Morgan pipeline, 29% are somewhat familiar, 19% are not very familiar, and 35% are not familiar at all. The numbers on this measure were nearly identical to those in May 2015.

### Familiarity with Kinder Morgan Pipeline



### Support/Oppose Kinder Morgan Pipeline

When asked if they support or oppose the Kinder Morgan pipeline, currently 31% of New Hampshire adults who have at least some familiarity with the pipeline support the project (13% strongly and 18% somewhat), 46% oppose the project (30% strongly and 16% somewhat), 18% are neutral, and 5% don't know enough to say. Similarly to Northern Pass, support has dropped seven points and opposition has increased five points since last May.



## Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest WMUR Granite State Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center and funded by WMUR-TV, Manchester, NH. Five hundred and two (502) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed in English by landline and cellular telephone between April 18 and May 3, 2016. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4 percent. These MSE's have not been adjusted for design effect. The design effect for the survey is 1.2%.

The random sample used in the WMUR Granite State Poll was purchased from Marketing Systems Group (MSG), Horsham, PA. MSG screens each selected telephone number to eliminate non-working numbers, disconnected numbers, and business numbers to improve the efficiency of the sample, reducing the amount of time interviewers spend calling non-usable numbers.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households. Additionally, data were weighted by respondent sex, age, and region of the state to targets from the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100%. The number of respondents in each demographic below may not equal the number reported in cross-tabulation tables as some respondents choose not to answer some questions.

For more information about the methodology used in the WMUR Granite State Poll, contact Dr. Andrew Smith at (603) 862-2226 or by email at [andrew.smith@unh.edu](mailto:andrew.smith@unh.edu).

### Granite State Poll, Spring 2016 Demographics

<b>Sex</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	245	49%	North Country	43	9%
Female	257	51%	Central/Lakes	89	18%
			Connecticut Valley	69	14%
<b>Age</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	Mass Border	121	24%
18 to 34	125	27%	Seacoast	92	18%
35 to 49	116	24%	Manchester Area	89	18%
50 to 64	145	31%			
65 and Over	84	18%	<b>Party Registration</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
			Democrat	122	25%
<b>Highest Level of Education</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	Undeclared	264	54%
High School or Less	101	21%	Republican	102	21%
Some College	110	22%			
College Graduate	145	30%	<b>Party Identification</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Post-Graduate	135	27%	Democrat	215	45%
			Independent	120	25%
<b>Years Lived in NH</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	Republican	139	29%
10 yrs. Or less	56	11%			
11-20 yrs.	119	25%			
> 20 yrs.	308	64%			

### Northern Pass

“How familiar are you with an electrical transmission project called the Northern Pass project? Would you say you are very familiar with it ... somewhat familiar ... not very familiar ... or not at all familiar?”

	<u>Apr. '11</u>	<u>Feb. '12</u>	<u>Feb. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '13</u>	<u>Aug. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '14</u>	<u>May '15</u>	<u>May '16</u>
Very Familiar	9%	13%	14%	17%	11%	17%	18%	<b>18%</b>
Somewhat Familiar	36%	41%	43%	48%	39%	36%	50%	<b>45%</b>
Not Very Familiar	18%	20%	17%	21%	23%	19%	18%	<b>16%</b>
Not At All Familiar	35%	25%	26%	13%	26%	28%	14%	<b>20%</b>
Don't Know / No Opinion	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	<b>0%</b>
(N=)	(502)	(527)	(580)	(505)	(513)	(509)	(566)	<b>(499)</b>

“Based on what you have seen or heard, would you say you support or oppose the Northern Pass project?”

“Is that strongly or just somewhat?”

	<u>Apr. '11</u>	<u>Feb. '12</u>	<u>Feb. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '13</u>	<u>Aug. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '14</u>	<u>May '15</u>	<u>May '16</u>
Strongly Support	14%	16%	16%	16%	14%	20%	16%	<b>15%</b>
Somewhat Support	19%	26%	19%	25%	23%	21%	26%	<b>20%</b>
Neutral/Don't Know	30%	21%	22%	25%	24%	23%	24%	<b>26%</b>
Somewhat Oppose	15%	14%	18%	14%	18%	11%	13%	<b>16%</b>
Strongly Oppose	23%	23%	25%	20%	21%	25%	21%	<b>23%</b>
(N=)	(316)	(383)	(428)	(430)	(375)	(363)	(482)	<b>(394)</b>

### Kinder Morgan Pipeline

“How familiar are you with a proposed natural gas pipeline project by the Kinder Morgan company that would pass through several towns on the Massachusetts New Hampshire border ... would you say you are very familiar with it ... somewhat familiar ... not very familiar ... or not at all familiar?”

	<u>May '15</u>	<u>May '16</u>
Very Familiar	16%	<b>16%</b>
Somewhat Familiar	30%	<b>29%</b>
Not Very Familiar	20%	<b>19%</b>
Not At All Familiar	35%	<b>35%</b>
Don't Know / No Opinion	0%	<b>2%</b>
(N=)	(566)	<b>(494)</b>

“Based on what you have seen or heard, would you say you support or oppose the Kinder Morgan natural gas pipeline?”

(ASKED AFTER PROJECT SUSPENDED) “As you may know the Kinder Morgan company has decided to suspend the project. But based on what you have seen or heard, would you have supported or opposed the Kinder Morgan natural gas pipeline?”

“Is that strongly or just somewhat?”

	<u>May '15</u>	<u>May '16</u>
Strongly Support	15%	<b>13%</b>
Somewhat Support	23%	<b>18%</b>
Neutral/Don't Know	21%	<b>23%</b>
Somewhat Oppose	18%	<b>16%</b>
Strongly Oppose	23%	<b>30%</b>
(N=)	(366)	<b>(311)</b>

### Familiarity With Northern Pass

	<u>Very Familiar</u>	<u>Somewhat Familiar</u>	<u>Not Very Familiar</u>	<u>Not At All Familiar</u>	<u>Don't Know/Not Sure</u>	<u>(N)</u>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>499</b>
Registered Democrat	13%	51%	19%	16%	0%	122
Registered Undeclared	19%	46%	11%	23%	0%	263
Registered Republican	24%	38%	23%	15%	0%	102
Democrat	13%	51%	17%	19%	0%	215
Independent	23%	39%	11%	27%	0%	119
Republican	25%	42%	20%	13%	0%	139
Liberal	14%	50%	19%	17%	0%	122
Moderate	21%	46%	14%	18%	0%	192
Conservative	23%	43%	18%	16%	0%	136
Union household	18%	55%	11%	15%	0%	71
Non-union	18%	44%	17%	20%	0%	421
Read Union Leader	30%	49%	9%	12%	0%	90
Read Boston Globe	29%	44%	11%	17%	0%	62
Read Local Newspapers	24%	47%	10%	19%	0%	164
Watch WMUR	24%	46%	13%	18%	0%	270
Listen to NHPR	22%	54%	15%	9%	0%	160
Listen to Conserv. Radio	22%	55%	13%	10%	0%	39
18 to 34	11%	40%	20%	29%	0%	125
35 to 49	15%	43%	17%	23%	1%	116
50 to 64	24%	49%	13%	14%	0%	144
65 and over	23%	46%	18%	14%	0%	84
Male	24%	42%	19%	13%	0%	243
Female	13%	48%	13%	26%	0%	257
High school or less	13%	33%	25%	29%	0%	101
Some college	13%	44%	18%	25%	1%	110
College graduate	19%	52%	12%	16%	0%	145
Post-graduate	26%	48%	14%	12%	0%	134
Attend services 1 or more/week	30%	27%	16%	26%	1%	94
1-2 times a month	12%	46%	20%	21%	0%	55
Less often	12%	49%	15%	23%	0%	118
Never	19%	50%	16%	15%	0%	215
North Country	43%	33%	14%	10%	0%	43
Central / Lakes	26%	53%	12%	9%	1%	89
Connecticut Valley	23%	44%	13%	20%	0%	69
Mass Border	10%	40%	19%	30%	0%	119
Seacoast	9%	54%	19%	17%	0%	91
Manchester Area	16%	43%	18%	24%	0%	89
First Cong. Dist	17%	45%	15%	23%	0%	268
Second Cong. Dist	20%	46%	18%	16%	0%	231

**Support/Oppose Northern Pass**

	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>(N)</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>394</b>
Registered Democrat	7%	10%	28%	19%	32%	4%	100
Registered Undeclared	16%	20%	17%	17%	23%	6%	199
Registered Republican	21%	34%	13%	12%	12%	7%	87
Democrat	9%	13%	22%	18%	32%	5%	172
Independent	13%	22%	18%	11%	25%	11%	85
Republican	23%	30%	15%	17%	9%	6%	120
Liberal	8%	14%	22%	22%	30%	4%	101
Moderate	13%	19%	22%	14%	26%	7%	153
Conservative	25%	30%	13%	14%	12%	6%	114
Very Familiar	26%	14%	11%	12%	35%	2%	90
Somewhat Familiar	14%	23%	19%	20%	22%	3%	225
Not Very Familiar	5%	21%	26%	13%	12%	23%	80
Union household	14%	19%	13%	20%	29%	4%	60
Non-union	15%	21%	20%	15%	22%	7%	331
Read Union Leader	22%	21%	18%	12%	23%	4%	79
Read Boston Globe	12%	14%	12%	21%	38%	2%	52
Read Local Newspapers	16%	21%	16%	16%	28%	3%	132
Watch WMUR	18%	20%	18%	13%	25%	6%	222
Listen to NHPR	9%	21%	25%	18%	24%	3%	142
Listen to Conserv. Radio	21%	34%	11%	2%	18%	14%	34
18 to 34	11%	23%	17%	23%	16%	9%	89
35 to 49	10%	17%	25%	10%	29%	10%	87
50 to 64	17%	22%	16%	19%	23%	4%	124
65 and over	23%	18%	18%	11%	26%	4%	71
Male	17%	23%	18%	15%	21%	6%	206
Female	12%	18%	20%	18%	25%	7%	189
High school or less	12%	21%	23%	18%	18%	7%	72
Some college	16%	24%	14%	12%	21%	12%	80
College graduate	20%	19%	15%	14%	25%	7%	120
Post-graduate	10%	20%	24%	19%	26%	1%	116
Attend services 1 or more/week	20%	22%	19%	12%	22%	4%	68
1-2 times a month	20%	30%	15%	13%	17%	6%	43
Less often	18%	22%	15%	12%	27%	6%	89
Never	10%	17%	21%	22%	24%	7%	181
North Country	14%	26%	8%	16%	31%	4%	38
Central / Lakes	16%	20%	19%	16%	22%	7%	80
Connecticut Valley	6%	19%	10%	15%	41%	10%	53
Mass Border	19%	15%	17%	19%	18%	12%	81
Seacoast	10%	24%	23%	20%	20%	4%	74
Manchester Area	21%	21%	28%	11%	16%	2%	68
First Cong. Dist	13%	23%	21%	19%	18%	6%	205
Second Cong. Dist	17%	18%	17%	13%	28%	7%	189

**Familiarity With Kinder Morgan Pipeline**

	<b>Very Familiar</b>	<b>Somewhat Familiar</b>	<b>Not Very Familiar</b>	<b>Not At All Familiar</b>	<b>Don't Know/ Not Sure</b>	<b>(N)</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>494</b>
Registered Democrat	15%	35%	17%	30%	3%	121
Registered Undeclared	15%	26%	19%	39%	2%	261
Registered Republican	20%	28%	23%	28%	1%	102
Democrat	17%	32%	16%	33%	2%	212
Independent	15%	25%	17%	41%	1%	119
Republican	16%	28%	25%	30%	1%	139
Liberal	16%	29%	18%	34%	2%	122
Moderate	17%	27%	22%	33%	1%	190
Conservative	15%	28%	19%	36%	2%	136
Union household	21%	31%	13%	33%	2%	71
Non-union	15%	29%	20%	35%	2%	418
Read Union Leader	25%	30%	20%	23%	2%	89
Read Boston Globe	25%	35%	15%	22%	2%	62
Read Local Newspapers	21%	31%	16%	27%	4%	164
Watch WMUR	19%	33%	19%	29%	1%	270
Listen to NHPR	21%	32%	19%	26%	2%	160
Listen to Conserv. Radio	24%	38%	9%	28%	0%	39
18 to 34	7%	26%	16%	51%	1%	124
35 to 49	12%	16%	24%	48%	1%	116
50 to 64	24%	36%	20%	17%	2%	143
65 and over	18%	38%	16%	25%	3%	84
Male	17%	34%	17%	31%	1%	239
Female	14%	23%	21%	39%	2%	254
High school or less	15%	23%	12%	49%	2%	101
Some college	18%	25%	15%	37%	4%	108
College graduate	10%	36%	21%	32%	0%	145
Post-graduate	20%	28%	25%	26%	1%	133
Attend services 1 or more/week	19%	26%	21%	33%	2%	94
1-2 times a month	17%	23%	21%	38%	0%	55
Less often	13%	26%	26%	31%	4%	116
Never	16%	31%	15%	37%	1%	215
North Country	16%	27%	24%	33%	0%	43
Central / Lakes	15%	28%	23%	32%	3%	88
Connecticut Valley	24%	36%	7%	30%	3%	69
Mass Border	20%	31%	19%	29%	2%	117
Seacoast	7%	22%	22%	48%	1%	90
Manchester Area	13%	29%	20%	37%	1%	87
First Cong. Dist	11%	27%	21%	39%	2%	267
Second Cong. Dist	21%	30%	17%	30%	2%	226



**Support/Oppose Kinder Morgan Pipeline**

	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>(N)</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>311</b>
Registered Democrat	5%	4%	21%	24%	44%	2%	82
Registered Undeclared	11%	17%	19%	15%	33%	5%	152
Registered Republican	25%	35%	16%	8%	8%	8%	73
Democrat	6%	8%	19%	20%	45%	2%	135
Independent	16%	21%	17%	17%	22%	6%	68
Republican	19%	30%	19%	10%	14%	8%	97
Liberal	6%	8%	16%	20%	44%	6%	78
Moderate	11%	15%	22%	19%	30%	3%	123
Conservative	21%	32%	15%	8%	17%	8%	84
Very Familiar	22%	17%	3%	8%	49%	0%	78
Somewhat Familiar	14%	21%	15%	21%	28%	1%	141
Not Very Familiar	2%	14%	37%	14%	18%	15%	92
Union household	8%	20%	16%	13%	43%	0%	46
Non-union	14%	18%	19%	16%	28%	6%	262
Read Union Leader	23%	15%	18%	12%	24%	7%	67
Read Boston Globe	16%	11%	7%	17%	44%	5%	47
Read Local Newspapers	13%	24%	13%	16%	29%	5%	112
Watch WMUR	15%	19%	16%	17%	29%	5%	188
Listen to NHPR	11%	12%	17%	19%	35%	4%	115
Listen to Conserv. Radio	36%	42%	9%	1%	12%	0%	28
18 to 34	7%	25%	22%	23%	20%	2%	57
35 to 49	10%	11%	20%	23%	35%	2%	60
50 to 64	14%	17%	17%	10%	34%	9%	115
65 and over	19%	23%	14%	11%	30%	3%	60
Male	19%	21%	20%	12%	24%	5%	163
Female	6%	15%	17%	20%	37%	5%	148
High school or less	10%	30%	23%	10%	24%	3%	50
Some college	10%	21%	13%	23%	29%	5%	63
College graduate	16%	16%	18%	16%	28%	4%	96
Post-graduate	12%	12%	20%	13%	36%	6%	97
Attend services 1 or more/week	22%	19%	12%	13%	25%	7%	61
1-2 times a month	12%	33%	24%	15%	13%	3%	34
Less often	9%	14%	20%	12%	33%	11%	73
Never	10%	15%	18%	18%	36%	1%	134
North Country	15%	27%	20%	13%	13%	12%	29
Central / Lakes	18%	14%	15%	24%	24%	6%	58
Connecticut Valley	10%	12%	15%	6%	53%	4%	46
Mass Border	5%	18%	22%	14%	41%	0%	78
Seacoast	8%	20%	20%	28%	19%	5%	45
Manchester Area	24%	19%	18%	9%	22%	8%	54
First Cong. Dist	15%	20%	21%	17%	22%	5%	159
Second Cong. Dist	10%	15%	16%	14%	39%	5%	152